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Calendar Committee: Issues and Composition

Clara Krug

Georgia Southern University

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Approved by the Senate: 11/30/1999 (The motion passed 2-6)

Not Approved by the Senate:

Approved by the President:

Not Approved by the President:

Calendar Committee: Issues and Composition

Minutes: 11/30/1999: Calendar Committee: Issues and Composition of the Committee:
Dr. Clara Krug

Motion:

Dr. Clara Krug (CLASS) motioned that the Faculty Senate recommend to Dr. Grube the following changes to the Calendar Committee:

1) that he change the composition of the Calendar Committee to include more than the current 19 members.

2) that he change its composition to increase the total number of faculty members and the total number of student members, specifically, a total of 5 faculty members, one from each College to be elected by the Faculty Senate, a total of 3 undergraduate students to be designated or elected by the Student Government Association: one sophomore, one junior and one senior, one graduate student to be designated or elected by the Graduate Student Association or if there is no such association at an election conducted among graduate students.

3) that President Grube initiate whatever actions are necessary including having Statutes and/ Bylaws revised and/or having unwritten traditions codified in writing to effect this change in composition. The motion was seconded. Dr. Krug, a member of the Calendar Committee, provided the following justification for the motion "The Calendar Committee is not a standing committee of the Faculty Senate. If it were, I would recommend that the Senate change the composition. However, we cannot change the composition. We must recommend to President Grube that he change the composition. So that is why item number 1 reads as it does." "In item number 2, I'm requesting an

additional number of faculty members and students so that the total number of faculty members would be increased by three; currently we have two.

The Senate elects those two. They do not need to be members of the Senate, so this is providing for additional members, but is not asking for a change in the way in which they are elected. It is providing representation from all Colleges as is currently the situation on those committees which are Senate standing committees. A total of 3 undergraduate students to increase the number of students from 2 to 3 to increase that by 2 and to have one from each class of students who have already spent at least one year at Georgia Southern, so they are somewhat familiar with Georgia Southern and the calendar. The graduate student because at our Calendar Committee meetings the graduate students were discussed, and today we heard about graduate students from Kathy Albertson and we heard about graduate students from faculty in other Colleges." "Regarding item number 3, I do not know where there exists anywhere in writing that the Calendar Committee is composed of the people in the offices that are currently on it. I have never seen anything that gives a description of the Calendar Committee, how it is constituted, its rationale and mission. That is what we can find in other written documents on this campus." "Once we got into the meetings and to trying to prepare for the meetings I found out that the Calendar Committee works differently than other committees that I am associated with. It meets once a year and in that one meeting everything is decided in two hours." "...there would be additional voices at the Calendar Committee meeting who speak from the perspective of those who actually follow the nine-month calendar. The vast majority of the 19 Calendar Committee members-16 of the 19-are what I refer to as twelve-monthers and 3 of us are nine-monthers. And that perspective makes a difference in the votes and in the discussion and in the sense of who is represented."

Dr. Lane Van Tassell (Associate VPAA; Dean of Graduate Studies) suggested that item 2 be revised to reflect that a Graduate Student Association, in fact, exists at Georgia Southern University.

Dr. Jim Solomon (COST) asked Dr. Krug: "If you are making these changes, Clara, why would you not let each College elect their own faculty representatives as opposed to the Faculty Senate?"

Dr. Krug (CLASS) responded: "That would be fine with me. I was just trying to follow the procedures that are currently in place. And currently we do have an election for the Faculty Senate of a member of the Calendar Committee."

Ms. Iris Durden (Library) asked: "Is there a reason that the Library was excluded from the total of five faculty members, one from each College? We are considered the Corps of Instruction also."

Dr. Krug (CLASS) responded: "Yes, I apologize for that, Iris, because I realized our error after we had already done that, and I should especially apologize to Iris because

she served on the Calendar Committee. Thank you for calling that to my attention." Two motions were offered to revise Dr. Krug's original motion.

Motion:

Motion was made to remove the following language from item 2 of the original motion: "or if there is no such association at an election conducted among graduate students." Motion was seconded and approved. Motion: Motion was made to remove the following language from item 2: "specifically, a total of faculty members, one from each College to be elected by the Faculty Senate" and replace with: "specifically, a total of 6 faculty members, one from each College and the Library, to be elected by the Faculty Senate." The motion was seconded and approved. Discussion continued on the original motion.

Dr. Jim Bigley (CHPS) asked: "What are we trying to fix here? The process by which the Committee works, or the representation on the Committee? How many people does this Committee have now?"

Dr. Krug (CLASS) responded: "It has 19 now."

Dr. Bigley (CHPS) replied: "And we are going to add 8, so that will be 27. I don't understand how a committee can work effectively or efficiently with 27 people."

Dr. Krug (CLASS) responded: "You have to have more than three people who have a nine-month perspective."

Dr. Bigley (CHPS) replied: "Why don't we eliminate some twelve-monthers then?"

Dr. Krug (CLASS) responded: "You are asking the wrong person. I'm just trying to go from the nine-month perspective. I think there might be some value in what you are saying. However, I think if we suggest that to Dr. Grube he might not act on it. I think maybe its one of those long range things. This is the first time to my knowledge anybody has ever proposed that anything abo the Calendar Committee be changed. Until last year I don't think anybody but the Calendar Committee members knew who was on it."

Dr. Fred Whitt (CHPS) stated: "Obviously, the whole calendar issue is very sensitive...I've been here 8 years and the Committee some years has met three times. I remember a year where we didn't meet at all. I think on the quarter system, those meetings didn't last 15 minutes. We would approve almost two or three academic years in a 15 minute meeting because we had a model in place. And it was helpful to have some of the 12 monthers because you could check when Homecoming was, or you knew when there was an away football game, or you knew when there was a certain religious holiday...we had a model. Going into semester conversion we don't have a model. I would suggest that maybe an ad hoc committee look at the 51 percent rule, the

start date the extra time in Spring, when we have graduation, and bring to the Senate a model. It's a model that we are lacking here."

Dr. Leo Parrish (COBA) asked: "Who knows the answer to the question of how did we determine the composition of the Committee?" Dr. Krug (CLASS) responded: "That's why I asked for an explanation in writing, in item number 3 I'd like to know." No recorded response was given to Dr. Parrish's question. Debate was closed on the motion. The motion passed 22-6.